

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 12, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 35

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Daly, Dickinson, Donnelly, Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Roger Hernández, Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Logue, Lowenthal, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mitchell, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, Williams, and Yamada)

March 18, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 35—Relative to California Native American Heritage Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 35, as amended, Alejo. California Native American Heritage Month.

This measure would recognize the month of September every year as California Native American Heritage Month, would encourage Californians to participate in appropriate observances that celebrate and commemorate California Native Americans, and would applaud and

encourage the observance of California Indian Nations for their outstanding contributions to this state.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Native Americans were the first human inhabitants
2 of the land that is now the great State of California; and

3 WHEREAS, California Native Americans have contributed and
4 continue to contribute immeasurably to our state's history,
5 diversity, economy, and culture by distinguishing themselves as
6 academics, entrepreneurs, and leaders throughout our state; and

7 WHEREAS, Prior to the European colonization of the Americas,
8 the indigenous people of California thrived with a vibrant culture
9 and society; and

10 WHEREAS, California Native Americans have preserved their
11 rich heritage, which is among the world's great cultural treasures,
12 in the face of adversity; and

13 WHEREAS, California Native American heritage and culture
14 is richly interwoven with California's diverse social fabric; and

15 WHEREAS, Through their rich cultural traditions and proud
16 ancestry, California Native Americans have made vital
17 contributions to the strength and diversity of our society in such
18 areas as law, medicine, business, education, and the United States
19 Armed Forces; and

20 WHEREAS, In spite of a tragic past, Native Americans have
21 been generous citizens and proudly served in the United States
22 Armed Forces for over 200 years, defending the security of our
23 state and nation with their lives, including engaging in World War
24 II and Operation Iraqi Freedom, with honor, determination, and
25 distinction; and

26 WHEREAS, The work of Native American leaders has sought
27 to bridge racial, socioeconomic, and environmental barriers by
28 empowering and educating people in order to protect Native
29 American culture and heritage for future generations; and

30 WHEREAS, California Native Americans have faced numerous
31 barriers to business development, but have overcome those barriers
32 to persevere and contribute to Native American communities
33 throughout the state and country, and exemplify Native American
34 entrepreneurship in such areas as economic development, the food
35 service industry, health care, and banking finance; and

1 WHEREAS, California tribal governments today support more
2 than 60,000 of our fellow citizens and contribute \$7.5 billion to
3 our shared economy; and

4 WHEREAS, California tribes have generously donated their
5 time and millions of dollars each year for education, youth
6 programs, health care services, and other essential social services
7 that strengthen California; and

8 WHEREAS, California today is home to the largest population
9 of Native Americans in the 50 states, including both the rebounding
10 numbers of our native tribes and others drawn to the Golden State
11 by its myriad attractions; and

12 WHEREAS, As we celebrate the contributions of Native
13 Americans to the great State of California, let us recognize the
14 success of tribal businesses and the rise of tribal members in all
15 walks of life as a testament to the resilience and enduring spirit of
16 our native peoples; now, therefore, be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
18 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the month of
19 September every year as California Native American Heritage
20 Month and encourages all Californians to participate in appropriate
21 observances with activities that celebrate and commemorate
22 California Native Americans as a symbol of hope and courage to
23 all citizens; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That this recognition applauds and encourages the
25 observance of California Indian Nations for their outstanding
26 contributions to this great state; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.